

U.S. Department of Justice



Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20535-0001

Mr. Ernie Lazar
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San Francisco, CA 94142-3434

MAR 14 2001

Subject of Request: Robert Chambliss

FOIPA No. 442,713 /190- HQ-1250810

Dear Requester:

Enclosed are copies of documents from FBI records. Excisions have been made to protect information exempt from disclosure pursuant to Title 5, United States Code, Section 552 (Freedom of Information Act) and/or Section 552a (Privacy Act). In addition, where excisions were made, the appropriate exempting subsections have been cited opposite the deletions. Where pages have been withheld in their entirety, a deleted page information sheet has been substituted showing the reasons or basis for the deletion. The subsections cited for withholding information from the enclosed documents are marked below:

Section 552

Section 552a

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|--|---|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(1) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(A) | <input type="checkbox"/> (d)(5) |
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(See Form OPCA-16a, enclosed, for an explanation of these exemptions.)

Pursuant to your request, 1,300 pages(s) were reviewed and 396 page(s) are being released.

During the review of material pertinent to the subject of your request, documents were located which

- ☐ originated with another Government agency(ies).
These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.
- ☐ contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
(FBI)**

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS
RELEASE**

SUBJECT: Robert Edward Chambliss

FOIPA NUMBER: 443,713

FILE NUMBER: 157-BH-390, Section 1

(Title) _____

(File No.) _____

1. 10-15-63 Interview log
2. " Current Photos of Robert Edward Chambliss
3. " Negs. & photo of R. E. Chambliss
4. " R/D maps of Chambliss house, & street
5. 10-16-63 Log of ~~finds~~ Conducted at 2505.32 ~~nd~~
~~see~~ Residence of Robert E. Chambliss
6. 10-25-63 Copy - Statement Chambliss to ATF
7. 11-8-63 Photos of 1950 Chev property of R. E. Chambliss
8. " " residence, cars of [REDACTED]
9. " Home of Robert E. Chambliss
10. 11-26-63 Photos of R. E. Chambliss and his 1960 Falcon
11. 1/17/64 Transcripts Recrod Recorders Court, Bky
re Robert E. Chambliss
12. 6/23/64 Surv. Log 5-11-64

Disposition:

137-390 1A

SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED _____	FILED _____
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FBI - BIRMINGHAM	

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NOV 63

POLICE DEPARTMENT
BIRMINGHAM ALABAMA
NO 72646 DATE 4 30







Date Received _____

File # LA [REDACTED]

Name of Contributor
B'ham PD
 (Address of Contributor)

By [REDACTED]

To Be Returned Yes ☐ No ☒

Description:
Transcript of Record
Recorder's Court, City of
B'ham re
Robert E Chambliss

File No. 157-390-1A11

b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED ON ENVELOPE
 ONLY HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 12-1-99 BY DAJ/pml

TRANSCRIPTION OF RECORD
RECORDER'S COURT OF THE CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
(Disc. No. 3011-A)

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM

VS

ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS

WM

No. 81328-J

CHARGE:
Violation Sec. 464 GCC.

PLEA:
Not Guilty

This cause came on to be heard in the Recorder's
Court of the City of Birmingham, on October 9, 1963, Hon.
J. Earl Langner, Judge presiding.

ARRESTING OFFICER:
Capt. G. V. Evans

APPEARANCE:
H. B. Parrish, Jr.

VERDICT:
Guilty and fined \$100.00 and costs and 180 days.

---oOo---

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-1-99 BY SP4BJA/PAM

THE COURT: 81328, City of Birmingham against Robert E. Chambliss, he is charged with Violating Sec. 464 GCC, he is represented by Attorney Hollis Parrish, and he enters a plea of Not Guilty.

(witnesses sworn in)

Rule invoked.

---oOo---

CAPTAIN WILLIE B. PAINTER WM

BY ASST. CITY ATTY. WILLIAM THOMPSON:

Q State your name and occupation please sir.

A Capt. Willie B. Painter, investigator in the identification division of the Alabama Dept. of Public Safety.

Q Capt. Painter, were you so employed during the month of September and October of this year?

A I was sir.

Q In your capacity as an investigator have you had occasion to talk to a man by the name of Mr. John Wesley Hall?

A I have sir.

(motion made for city^{to} be ordered to prove case in more ordered manner)
(overruled)

Q Now on or about the latter part of October, September or the earlier part of November of this year, did you have occasion to talk to Mr. John Wesley Hall in the presence of this defendant? Mr. Chambliss.

A I did.

Q Where were you when this conversation took place?

A At the Alabama Highway Patrol Office on the Bessemer Highway.

Q When did it take place?

A That was on the night of September 29, 1963.

Q Who was present at the time it took place?

A The defendant, Capt. R. W. Godwin of the Dept. of Pub. Safety, myself, Mr. Hall and Mr. Cagle was present during part of the conversation.

Q At this time and at this place and in front of these people you have just stated, did Mr. Hall make some statement that relates to this defendant and the charge that he is being tried for now?

A Mr. Hall discussed

Just answer that question yes or no.

A Yes sir.

Q He did, sir?

A Yes sir.

Q And this was in the presence of this defendant?

A Yes sir.

Q Would you state what was said at that time? (objection)

(overruled)

BY ATTY. PARRISH:

Q How long had these men been in the patrol station out there when you say this statement was made?

A A period of 2 or 3 hours.

Q And you had them in more than one room out there didn't you? You had some in one room and some in another?

A Yes sir.

Q The statement made by Hall was made outside the presence of Chambliss at first wasn't it?

A Yes sir. It was made away, not in his presence.

Q In other words, the minute Hall got out there he made his statement didn't he?

A Well not the exact minute.

Q Not the minute, but almost immediately thereafter, is that right?

A In a short time thereafter. I talked with him for a period of time and then took a written statement from him.

Q And that is also true ^{as} to Cagle. He almost immediately made a similar or his statement didn't he?

A No sir. I and other investigators talked to Mr. Cagle for a period of time.

Q Now these rooms you kept the three men in, were they about the same size?

A The rooms are varied in size. Some of them are similar, some are larger than others.

Q Chambliss stayed in one room most of the evening didn't he?

A The bigger part of the time, yes.

Q And that was the fairly large room wasn't it?

A Not substantially any larger than the room that I had talked to Mr. Hall, both Mr. Hall and Mr. Chambliss in. They would vary in size but not a great deal.

Q And for part of the time that the men were there you left for example Chambliss alone in that room didn't you?

A Well I'm not aware of that.

Q Well I mean you were out of his presence weren't you?

A I was out of his presence. I was not in his presence until

during the time, during all of the time that he was out there.

Q Was Col. Lingo on the scene at that time?

A Yes sir.

Q And you didn't mention him while ago as being in the room when the alleged statement of Hall was made in the presence of Chambliss he wasn't there was he?

A He wasn't in the room, no sir.

Q But he was in the building?

A I'm not sure that he was in the building at that time. He was in the building or in the vicinity.

Q Had Hall signed the statement at the time you say a statement was made in the presence of Chambliss?

A Yes sir.

Q Had Cagle signed a statement at that time?

A He had not. Mr. Cagle hadn't made an oral statement at that time.

Q You had questioned Chambliss for several hours at that time also, hadn't you?

A I had talked to Mr. Chambliss for a period of maybe 10 minutes at that time.

Q And he answered your questions didn't he?

A He answered several questions.

Q Do you mean to say that Chambliss had been there two or three hours and you had only questioned him 10 minutes?

A Personally I had talked to him for a brief period of time myself. I understand others had talked to him but I personally had not.

Q Did you and Capt. Godwin go from room to room together and were you a team?

A No sir, we were not a team. I first talked to Mr. Hall, then I talked to Mr. Cagle. Capt. Godwin I believe then talked to Mr. Hall and I'm not sure whether he talked to Mr. Cagle on that night prior to the time that he was brought into the room where we were talking to Mr. Chambliss.

Q How big would you say the room was where Chambliss was at the time the statement was made?

A The room was probably in my best estimation 8 by 10 feet.

Q Now the purpose of Hall being in that room was to confront Mr. Cagle wasn't it?

A Yes sir. On that particular occasion, yes.

Q And he did confront Mr. Cagle?

A Yes sir.

Q And Mr. Cagle was silent, didn't say anything, is that right?

A At that particular incidence an argument in effect took place between Mr. Hall and Mr. Cagle.

Q And during all of that time Mr. Chambliss was sitting over to one side and not even involved in that

A I beg your pardon, the argument took place between Mr. Hall and Mr. Chambliss rather than Mr. Hall and Mr. Cagle.

Q Sir?

A I beg your pardon, I stated that the argument took place between Mr. Hall and Mr. Cagle,

Q Yes sir, you did.

A I correct that. The argument took place between Mr. Hall and Mr. Chambliss.

Q Well I thought you also said that Mr. Hall was in there at your suggestion for the purpose of confronting Mr. Cagle.

A That is correct, sir.

Q And yet you say that Hall and Chambliss was talking or having an argument?

A Yes, there was an argument between Mr. Hall and Mr. Chambliss, a spirited conversation.

Q You don't want to change your statement that Mr. Hall was brought into the room to confront Mr. Cagle do you?

A That is correct, Mr. Hall was brought into the room to confront Mr. Cagle. (motion to exclude ^{any} statements made in Mr. Chambliss' presence) I beg your pardon on that statement. The purpose of Mr. Hall being brought into the room,

Q We don't ask for any voluntary statement. You have answered my question.

THE COURT: Motion is overruled.

Q You have correctly and the best that you remember it explained the circumstances and what was said and done at the time the statement was made that you are about to read at Mr. Thompson's suggestion before I interrupted, weren't you, am I correct?

A Yes sir.

Q That's all.

BY ATTY. THOMPSON:

Q Now Mr. Painter, there was a statement made by Mr. Hall given

at that time in Mr. Chambliss' presence, is that right?

A In substance, yes.

Q In substance. All right sir. I'll ask you if you would to give that statement to me. (objection) (overruled) Is the sentence you are about to give, did it have reference to Mr. Chambliss?

A Yes.

Q If you would, would you give the statement please?

A In detail?

Q I'll ask you this, was the written statement of Mr. Hall's read to Mr. Chambliss or was Mr. Hall's statement related in front of Mr. Chambliss and Mr. Cagle in substance?

A A written statement was available at that time, the statement was not read in detail to Mr. Chambliss. Mr. Hall came into the room where I at that time and Capt. Godwin were talking to Mr. Chambliss and stated in substance what was in the written statement.

Q Would you then answer the question and testify if you will and if you can as to what the substance of the statements that were made in Mr. Chambliss' presence.

A Mr. Hall came into the room and stated to Mr. Chambliss in substance the conversation as he has stated was held at a meeting in Bessemer and then later his going to his residence and getting some dynamite out of the back of Mr. Chambliss' automobile. Mr. Chambliss denied that at that time. Mr. Hall said Bob Chambliss, in substance I'm not sure I can quote the exact words, Bob Chambliss if you say that you didn't ask me to come to your house, that I didn't call you on the telephone (objection)(overruled) Getting back to the conversation

between Mr. Hall and Mr. Chambliss as I have stated, and then Mr. Hall stated to Mr. Chambliss, Bob Chambliss, if you say that I didn't talk to you on the telephone and come out there and get the dynamite out of back of your car you are a god damn liar. An argument took place and during that conversation Mr. Hall called Mr. Chambliss a god damn liar on 3 or 4 different occasions. In their discussions Mr. Chambliss denying knowledge of the dynamite and Mr. Hall telling him that he did have knowledge of it. (objection renewed) (overruled)

Q Was there any further statement made by Mr. Hall at that time after that exchange took place?

A Mr. Hall left the room shortly after that, I beg your pardon, Mr. Cagle was also brought into the room and stated in substance orally in the presence of Mr. Chambliss and to Mr. Chambliss substantially the same as Mr. Hall had stated. And then a short time thereafter they left the room.

Q During that time was there statements made by Mr. Hall as to he and Mr. Cagle going to Mr. Chambliss' house on the night in question?

A Yes sir.

Q I'll ask you whether or not there was any statements made at that time in this defendant's presence about Mr. Hall taking the case of dynamite out of Mr. Chambliss' car and placing it in Mr. Hall's car?

A Yes sir. (objection) (sustained)

Q I believe that's all.

MAJOR W. R. JONES

BY ATTY. THOMPSON:

Q State your name and occupation please sir.

A Major W. R. Jones, I am chief investigator in the identification

division of the Dept. of Public Safety.

Q Major Jones, your rank is Major, is that correct? Were you so employed in the month of September and October of this year?

A Yes I was.

Q Have you had occasion during that period of time and prior to that too to investigate a matter concerning this defendant, Mr. Chambliss?

A Yes I have.

Q During the course of your investigation in the performance of your duties, did you have occasion to have a conversation with this defendant?

A Yes I have.

Q I'll ask you whether or not during these conversations with Mr. Chambliss there were matters discussed by him, stated by him that had some connection with the charge that he is being tried for now?

A Yes he did.

Q Where were you when this conversation or conversations took place?

A Here in the City Hall building.

Q In your best judgment when?

A Approximately 9:30 AM on Monday morning September 30th.

Q About 9:30 and what was the day you say?

A September 30th, Monday morning.

Q Who if anyone was present other than yourself and the defendant?

A Col. Lingo and Capt. Glenn Evans of the Birmingham Police Dept.

Q During this conversation and in front of these people, did

Mr. Chambliss make a statement to you or to these other people in your presence?

A He made a statement there in my presence.

Q Prior to the time of Mr. Chambliss making that statement, was there any threats, inducements made to him or against him in order to obtain such a statement or to compel him to make that statement?

A ... (not clear)

Q Were there any promises or hopes or offers of reward made to him in order to obtain such a statement?

A (not clear)

Q Was Mr. Chambliss told that it would be better for him to make such a statement or against him if he did not make such a statement?

A No sir.

Q Was such a statement made on the part of Mr. Chambliss voluntarily?

A Yes sir.

Q Was this statement reduced to writing?

A It was not.

Q Would you state to the court what such a statement it was?

BY ATTY. PARRISH: (asks to be allowed to question him now)

Q Major Jones, weren't you in on the investigation the night before? Over there at the Highway Patrol?

A Yes sir.

Q And Col. Lingo was there too wasn't he?

A Yes sir.

Q Now you said ~~awhile~~ while ago that to the best of your recollection or remembrance that it was Monday morning, you could be mistaken about that couldn't you?

A No sir.

Q Did you say at the St. Francis Hotel where Col. Lingo did?

A No sir.

Q Where did you stay?

A I stayed at the Holiday Inn.

Q Which Holiday Inn?

A Downtown.

Q Is that 3rd Ave. or the

A 3rd Ave. and 14th.

Q What time did you check out of there the next morning?

A I didn't check out the next morning.

Q You didn't go to sleep at all?

A Yes I went to sleep but I didn't check out.

Q I mean, you didn't leave your key there, or what time did you leave the motel?

A On Monday morning?

Q Yes sir. You don't have any recollection?

A It was around 11:00, yes sir.

Q You left the motel at 11:00 AM. Sir?

A Yes sir.

Q After having slept from, what time did you go to bed?

A I went to bed about approximately 6:00

Q And you woke up and dressed just before 11:00 AM?

A Yes sir.

Q Didn't I just hear you tell this lawyer that at 9:30 AM that morning you were questioning Chambliss here in City Hall?

A Yes sir. That was an error. It was Tuesday morning.

Q Yes sir.

THE COURT: For the record, what day was Tuesday?

A October 1.

BY ATTY. PARRISH:

Q You did then get a full night's sleep then, is that right?

A I beg your pardon?

Q I say you woke up after a reasonably good night's sleep?

A I got up about 11:00 on Monday, yes sir.

Q Now that afternoon, how long did you work on this case that day?

A I worked all day on it.

Q When did you quit or just more or less take off?

A I don't recall.

Q Wasn't it just about evening, I mean you didn't just work on into the next night.

A No sir.

Q And you were staying in Birmingham that Monday night weren't you?

A Yes sir.

Q You read the Birmingham evening paper, didn't you?

A I don't recall whether I did or not.

Q ~~Do~~ ~~didn't~~ you swear to this court that on the day the investigation was being made, on ~~Monday~~ October 1, that you don't know whether

Q you read an afternoon Birmingham News?

A I don't know whether I did or not.

Q Did you go with Col. Lingo when he started out on the investigation sometime around 11:00? ~~We are talking about Monday now~~

A I met Col. Lingo, do you mean on Monday?

Q Yes, we are talking about Monday now.

A I met him here at the City Hall.

Q Along about 11:00 AM wasn't it?

A 11:00 AM, yes sir.

Q Did you go to Chief Jamie Moore's office?

A Yes.

Q Did you notice there on Chief Jamie Moore's date book my name and my telephone number that I represented Chambliss and that I desired to be present when he was questioned?

A I understood you represented him. I had no information that you desired to be present.

Q You understood that Monday morning around 11:00 AM didn't you?

A That you represented him, yes sir.

Q And my telephone number was given to you and Col. Lingo wasn't it?

A Yes sir. Given to me, I don't know whether it was given to Col. Lingo or not.

Q Given to you?

A Yes sir.

Q Did you call me?

A No sir.

Q And on Tuesday morning which was from the 29th through the 30th into the 1st of October, you were still questioning Mr. Chambliss weren't you?

A We questioned him that morning.

Q Well now you questioned him some Monday didn't you?

A I didn't.

Q You didn't?

A No sir.

Q What did you do the rest of the day Monday?

A I don't know recall.

Q You don't?

A No sir, I don't.

Q You didn't do anything productive toward this investigation?

A Well I didn't talk to Mr. Chambliss.

Q You didn't go over to city jail?

A I don't recall whether I went over to city jail or not.

Q Didn't you see him in the lie detector room here in the City Hall late that afternoon, Monday afternoon?

A I could have, yes sir.

Q You did that didn't you.

A Yes sir, I believe I did.

Q Yes sir, I believe you did. You knew at that time that I was calling to be allowed to counsel with him and represent him, is that right?

A I knew you had called Chief Moore.

Q And the statement he made after you started talking to him on

the 29th through the 30th into the 1st he made these statements you offer here, is that right?

A Yes sir.

Q That's all. (objection to statement) (overruled)

BY ATTY. THOMPSON:

Q Major Jones, would you then give the statement that was made by Mr. Chambliss at that time and place that you received the statement? (objection) (argument by Mr. Thompson)

BY JUDGE LANGNER: For the record, the court retired and took a recess for the purpose of checking citations of authority on ^{the} question involved. And after examining the authorities the court would like to make this statement for the record and to the counsels. That as the court sees it the question is on the admissibility of a confession or an admission made by the accused in relation to whether or not there had been a proper predicate laid for such a confession or admission to come in. Now the court as I see it, such could not come in until the proper predicate has been laid. Now, in regard to that predicate there must be some evidence that the offense charged has been committed, and if I understand the authority it is not necessary in the preliminary questioning of whether or not the predicate has been laid for the evidence to prove that the accused himself is the one who has committed the offense. That being the case the court rules that on the question of the corpus, and if I have indicated anything to the contrary prior to this time as possibly I have, that there is not a sufficient corpus at this time and I am going to reverse myself on the basis of examining the authorities and just state at this time that there is testimony in

the record that the offense charged has been committed. There is evidence that it has been. I don't pass on how strong the court considers that evidence to be at this point. But I think that since that is the case, that sufficient predicate has been laid now to ~~present~~ receive the statement that is being offered and so the objection to it is overruled.

ATTY. PARRISH: Judge, at this time could I further say, and I would have to ask the indulgence of the court to allow me to open up the cross-examination of Capt. Painter because it occurs to me that we were about to violate another rule of evidence in that I failed to make a timely objection and I now ask the right to make that objection, that what he was attempting to say and state here as a some sort of unwritten statement was certainly secondary or about third rate testimony, at least it that above that we have available, or/should be available, the actual person, ^{Hall,} ~~Smith~~ who is alleged to have made that statement and that would be the best evidence to have Hall called and to present that. And until that is exhausted, in my opinion, we are about to get into the question of secondary evidence and it is inadmissible, irrelevant on the grounds that it is secondary evidence and with the court's indulgence and coming late I asked for the right to do now add that as one of my grounds for objecting to the testimony of Capt. Painter which brought forward what little evidence of a corpus delicti has been brought. (overruled)

MAJOR JONES

BY ATTY. THOMPSON:

Q Major Jones, prior to the recess, it is my recollection we were

at a point concerning a statement that Mr. Chambliss had made to you and you had also testified as to where it was made, when it was made, and under what circumstances it was made. If you will, will you state to the court now what that statement was? (objection) (overruled)

A Mr. Chambliss stated at that time that he had bought a case of dynamite on the morning of September 4th.

Q September what?

A September 4th. And the place where he bought it gave him an additional three sticks of dynamite and he stated that is the same dynamite he had Mr. Hall move.

Q In his statement did Mr. Chambliss state to you what he did with this dynamite after he bought it?

A He stated he carried it to his home.

Q Did he state to you what the quantity of dynamite that it was?

A He stated that he bought a case and that the person that he bought it from had three additional sticks and he gave him those three additional sticks.

Q Did this statement include any reference to Mr. Hall?

A He stated that Mr. Hall knew at the time he came there what was in the back of his car.

Q In this statement did Mr. Chambliss state to you where he had the dynamite or what he did with the dynamite with reference to his home?

A He stated that Mr. Hall knew what it was he was coming for. He didn't say specifically whereabouts with reference to his home it was.

Q In substance, is this all of the statement Mr. Chambliss made to

you at that time and place in connection with this charge? Is this, what you have stated here the entire statement Mr. Chambliss made to you at that time that is relevant to this charge here?

A Well he stated the purpose for buying it and where he bought it

Q Well go ahead if you will and state that.

A He said he bought it from astore and that he had bought it for the purpose of blasting some stumps and a basement out for a new building at the, a plan they intended to buy some property to build a building on it.

Q In the course of your investigation and in your capacity as investigator and based on information that you received during this investigation, did you have occasion to go to a point in Gardendale, Alabama?

A Yes I did.

Q When was that, sir?

A That was on Tuesday, late Tuesday afternoon.

Q Who was present at the time that you went there?

A Col. Lingo, Capt. Godwin, Capt. McDowell of the city police department, Capt. Painter, Capt. Allen, and Charles Cagle.

Q Did you go there in an automobile?

A We went in two automobiles.

Q Who was in the car that you were in?

A Col. Lingo, myself, Capt. McDowell, Cagle, and I believe Ray Posey, there was another personCapt. Allen.

Q Where did you go?

A We went to out north of Gardendale on 31 North beyond Garden-

dale to the place called Mockingbird Lane.

Q Is this Mockingbird Lane, is it a road that turns off of U.S. Highway 31?

A Turns off U.S. 231.

Q 231 or 31?

A 31.

Q What did you do when you got out there?

A We searched the area.

Q What did you find?

A We found a small paper sack containing two sticks and a partial stick, maybe a half a stick or less in a sort of brown paper sack. And then we found a box containing 133 sticks.

Q I believe that's all.

BY ATTY. PARRISH:

Q Now referring to the morning of the 1st of Oct. when you say Mr. Chambliss made a statement to you, who else was there?

A Capt. Evans of the Birmingham Police Dept. and Col. Lingo.

Q Were present when he made the statement?

A Yes sir.

Q What room were you in ~~when~~ in this building?

A It is in a room back of the detective, a room adjoining the polygraph room, room

Q A room for investigation in the police department, is that right?

A Yes sir.

Q What had you said to the defendant just before you say he made the statement?

A I don't recall saying anything to him.

Q Didn't anybody else in your presence say anything to him either did they?

A Mr. Lingo had been talking to him and Mr. Evans had been in and out of the room.

Q What did you hear Mr. Lingo say to Mr. Chambliss here just before he is alleged to have made the statement?

A I don't recall his exact words, something about telling us what he had already told him.

Q What he had already told him?

A Yes sir.

Q Then without any further talk he made the statement?

A Yes sir.

Q When you went out to the Gardendale area you had a man named Charles Cagle with you didn't you?

A Yes sir.

Q What was the purpose of searching the area?

A To find this dynamite(not clear)

Q Didn't Cagle take you right up to the point where he said he had put it?

A He took up to the place where he said he stopped.

Q But he didn't

A He had trouble finding exactly where it was.

Q He went out in the vines with you, didn't he? A Yes sir.

Q He showed you where it was?

A No sir, he found the small sack but I found the box containing the 133 sticks myself.

Q How far was this from the sack?

A It was probably 50 yards, 40 yards.

Q Cagle couldn't walk right to where he said I put it right here and show you, could he?

A Well he didn't.

BY ATTY. THOMPSON:

Q In that connection, would you describe to the court the terrain out there?

A Where the sack was found was was a clearing there, where the box of dynamite was found was some heavy undergrowth underneath a bush.

Q When the box of dynamite was found was it in plain view that you could have seen it from 50 yards or more?

A No sir, you couldn't see it until you got right on it.

Q All right, that's all.

THE COURT: Would you ask him to describe the box.....

Q Would you describe the box please sir?

A The box was a heavy paste board box, it had been opened, the top separated from the bottom. It had on it "explosives dynamitetype".

Q Was this in writing, ~~printed~~

A Printed.

Q Printed on there. And this was a cardboard container.

A It indicated it had held 50 pounds.

Q Did you lift this carton or the box?

A No sir, I didn't lift it. I lifted the top off, this was

separate from the bottom, had already been opened. I lifted the top off and then we took the sticks out and placed them in another container or that ^{particular} container and another container and counted the sticks.

Q The sticks of dynamite?

A Yes sir.

Q In your judgment, if you have a judgment, how many sticks of dynamite ~~af~~ were there?

A 133 sticks.

Q I believe that's all.

BY ATTY. PARRISH:

Q How many sticks were in the box?

A 133 in the box.

Q How many outside the box?

A 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ in this sack

Q How many sticks of dynamite make up a case?

A The box indicated 50 pounds. It did not say how many.

Q The box was full wasn't it?

A I wouldn't estimate whether it was full or not.

Q Did you look in the box?

A Yes sir.

Q Was the box full?

A As I said the box had been opened. The box was not in an upright position. It was out of shape you might say. I couldn't say whether it was a full box or not.

Q All right, that's all.

BY ATTY. THOMPSON:

Q Would there have been more room in the box for additional

sticks?

A Well the bottom part of the box was laying down, you couldn't, I couldn't ~~see~~ say if

Q That's all right, if you can't, that's all right. That's all.
BY THE COURT:

Q Were there any notation on the printed matter what the capacity other than the weight of the box?

A No sir.

BY ATTY. PARRISH:

Q Did you weigh the box or anybody in your presence weigh it?

A No sir, not in my presence.

W. R. POSEY, STATE INVESTIGATOR *

BY ATTY. THOMPSON:

Q State your name and occupation please sir.

A W. R. Posey, criminal investigator for the Dept. of Public Safety.

Q Mr. Posey, were you so occupied in the month of September and October of this year?

A I was.

Q Do you know the defendant, Mr. Chambliss?

A Yes.

Q Do you know where Mr. Chambliss lives?

A Yes.

Q Do you know the street address of Mr. Chambliss' home?

A I do.

Q Where is that?

32
A 2505 ~~22~~ Ave. N., Birmingham.

Q Have you ever had occasion to go there?

A Yes sir.

Q Was Mr. Chambliss there at that time?

A Yes sir.

Q What was your occasion for going there?

A I went there to ask him to go to the patrol office to talk to some of the officials in our department.

Q Do you know Mr. Chambliss' wife, Mrs. Chambliss?

A Yes.

Q Have you ever seen her?

A Yes.

Q Was she at the house at that time?

A Yes sir.

Q Now that address you gave me, is that in the city of Birmingham?

A It is.

Q That's all.

BY ATTY. PARRISH:

Q What date did you say you were there?

A I couldn't, I believe it was the 29th, I'm not sure.

Q About the 29th?

A Yes^d sir, it was on a Sunday, Sunday night.

Q You say you had known Mr. Chambliss before that date? A No sir, I didn't

Q Then you were directed to that house?

A That is correct.

Q And at that house you saw Mr. Chambliss?

A That is correct.

Q Well then you wouldn't know whether he owns another house and three acres of land in Gardendale, Alabama would you?

A No sir, I wouldn't.

Q You have never been out there? I mean to his house.

A I have never been to his house, no sir.

Q You just saw him at this house in North Birmingham?

A Yes sir.

Q Asked him to come with you to talk.

A That's correct.

Q And you haven't been back to that house since, have you?

A No sir.

Q You were just out at that house that day and you were directed to it.

A Yes sir.

Q I believe that's all.

THE JUDGE:As to what took place when he arrived at the house.

Q Mr. Posey, when you got to the house, did you, well first, who came to the door?

A Mrs. Chambliss.

Q What happened then?

A I asked her if I could talk to Mr. Chambliss. She said he is in the (objection)

Q What did you do? You had a conversation with Mrs. Chambliss?

A Yes sir.

Q What did you do after that conversation?

A I went in and talked to Mr. Chambliss.

Q Did you tell Mr. Chambliss who you were there?

A Yes sir.

Q You explained who you were? at that time.

A Yes sir.

Q Did he go with you voluntarily?

A Yes sir.

Q Did you tell him at that time why you wanted to talk to him and why the Department of Public Safety wanted to talk to him?

A No sir, I don't recall telling him exactly what

Q What happened then after, how long were you three there?

A Oh, I imagine about 20 minutes.

Q Was his wife present during that period of time?

A Yes sir.

Q And then who else was present with him?

A Don Lynn, was in the house.

Q Who is Mr. Lynn?

A He is an insurance salesman.

Q Oh, he is not ~~with our department~~

A He is not with our department.

Q Did he go there with you?

A Yes sir.

Q Were there any other investigators or officers from the Department of Public Safety?

A They were in the car.

Q They were in the car, they did not go in the house?

A No sir.

Q After that questioning of 20 minutes, what did you do?

A We drove to the patrol office.

Q In the car that you and the other gentlemen came in?

A Yes sir.

Q All right.

BY ATTY. PARRISH:

Q How long have you lived around the Birmingham area, Mr. Posey?

A Since 1939.

Q Well you know then that an address in North Birmingham known as 2505 32 Ave. N. could not and would not be the same as an address known as Route 7 Box 697, that just couldn't be the same address could it?

A That is correct.

Q What is Mr. Chambliss' wife's name if you know?

A I don't know.

Q You had never seen her before that day had you?

A No sir.

Q I'll ask you to look at this paper with me. I'll show you an address you see 2505 32 Ave. N. there?

A Yes sir.

Q Is this a cancellation of insurance policy directed to Robert Chambliss and wife Flora L. Chambliss dated October 3, 1968, and is it directed to the address of 2505 32 Ave. N.?

A That is correct.

Q And it says the policy issued on the dwelling coverage is in substance cancelled doesn't it?

A Yes sir.

Q Now I'll ask you to look at this next page here, and it is also dated October 3, 1963 isn't it?

A Yes sir.

Q It is directed to Robert E. Chambliss and wife Flora L. Chambliss?

A Yes sir.

Q And it says Route 7 Box 697 of Birmingham, Alabama don't it?

A That is correct.

Q And further down here it says you are notified that your fire coverage on a dwelling coverage is hereby cancelled don't it?

A Yes sir.

Q Now when you were questioning Hall and the other men you don't know which of those two houses they were talking about do you?

A No sir.

Q That's all. We offer these two certificates or rather notices in evidence.

ATTY. THOMPSON: I can do this by witness or I can do it, the court can take judicial knowledge of its own records. We would like at this time to call the court's attention to the Appearance Bond that was filed and signed by this defendant in this court and the name of the defendant appearing thereon and the address appearing thereon. If my memory serves me correctly, the address appearing thereon is 2505 32 Ave. N. opposite the name Robert E. Chambliss.

ATTY. PARRISH: It is admitted that that is one of ...(not clear)

W. E. BERRY, DEPUTY FIRE MARSHALL

BY ATTY. THOMPSON:

Q State your name and occupation please sir.

A W. E. Berry, Deputy Fire Marshall, Birmingham Fire Department.

Q Mr. Berry, how long have you been so employed?

A I have been on the department 14 years and my present ^{capacity} ~~status~~ about 12.

Q I'll ask you whether or not in your capacity it is one of the duties, functions of your office to be custodian of the permits to possess dynamite within the city limits of Birmingham?

A Yes sir.

Q I'll ask you whether or not in the last, within the 30 days or within the last 15 days you have had occasion to make a check or determination of your records concerning Mr. Chambliss?

A Yes sir.

Q I'll ask you whether such a check or determination of your records indicated whether or not a permit had been issued by your office to this defendant R. E. Chambliss to possess dynamite in the city of Birmingham?

A No permit has been issued to Mr. Chambliss.

Q I'll ask you whether or not in the last 30 days a permit has been issued to Mr. John Wesley Hall?

A No sir, no permit has been issued to Mr. Hall.

Q Well I'll ask you whether or not a permit has been issued to Mr. Charles Cagle?

A No, no permit has been issued to Mr. Cagle.

Q That's all.

BY ATTY. PARRISH:

Q You say you checked for the last 30 days?

A I checked the records within the last 30 days.

Q How far back did you check?

A The records goes back, the current records to January 1 of this year.

Q You ran an index back that far?

A Yes sir. That record has to be tabulated by myself every December and I ran back through....

Q That's all.

(city rests case)

(argument)

---oOo---

do

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

(460 RC)

J. Edgar Hoover
Director

The following FBI record, NUMBER 1 004 302

is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

CONTIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	RECEIVED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
PD Birmingham, Ala.	Robert E. Chambliss #29190	10/31/35	v.o. Liq. Law- for Gov.	del. to Govt. Agent, Birmingham Ala. ATU
USM Birmingham, Ala.	R.E. Chambliss #1325	10/31/35	not given	
SO Birmingham, Ala.	Robert E. Chambliss #2703	11/1/35	vio. IRL	Government
SO Birmingham, Ala.	Robert E. Chambliss applicant #CSB 216 for truck driver 6/11/41			
SO, Birmingham, Ala.	Robert E. Chambliss #2703		relative language	10/6/44, \$1. and \$26.80 costs, paid
SO, Birmingham, Ala.	Robert Edward Chambliss #2703	7-11-49	flogging while masked.	pending.
SO Birmingham Ala	Robert Edward Chambliss #2703	9-2-49	A&B	pending 9-26-49 disch
PD Birmingham Ala	Robert Edward Chambliss #29190	4-20-50	material witness	4-20-50 rel

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-1-99 BY *SP4/bj/pen*

Notations indicated by * ARE NOT BASED ON FINGERPRINTS IN FBI files. The notation is based on data formerly furnished this Bureau concerning individuals of the same or similar name or aliases and ARE LISTED ONLY AS INVESTIGATIVE LEADS.

157-390-20
SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
OCT 1 - 1963
FBI - BIRMINGHAM

b7C

1460 2024

J. Edgar Hoover
11/10/51

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Notations indicated by * ARE NOT BASED ON FINGERPRINTS IN FBI files. The notations are based on data formerly furnished this Bureau concerning individuals of the same or similar names or aliases and ARE USED ONLY AS INVESTIGATIVE LEADS.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

(460 12)

J. Edgar Hoover
Director

The following FBI record, NUMBER 1 004 302, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
	Description: Sex: Male Race: White Date of birth: 1-14-04 Place of birth: Pratt City Ala Height: 5-11 Weight: 160 Complexion: Ruddy Hair: Brown Eyes: Blue Build: Medium Residence: in 1950- 2505-32 Ave South Birmingham Ala			

Information shown on this Identification Record represents data furnished FBI by fingerprint contributors. Where final disposition is not shown or further explanation of charge is desired, communicate with agency contributing those fingerprints.

Notations indicated by * are NOT based on fingerprints in FBI files but are listed only as investigative leads as being possibly identical with subject of this record.

Ala. 1904 M.V.

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

7924

May 9 1950 3818 1d

The following is the record of FBI number

1004302

J. E. Hoover
 Director

CONTINUED OF PREVIOUS PAGE	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
FD Birmingham, Ala.	Robert F. Chambliss #29190	10/31/35	vio. Liq. Law- hold for Gov.	del. to Govt. Agent, Birmingham Ala. ATU
US Birmingham, Ala.	R. E. Chambliss #1825	10/31/35	not given	
SO Birmingham, Ala.	Robert F. Chambliss #2703	11/1/35	vio. IRL	Government
SO Birmingham, Ala.	Robert F. Chambliss #CSB 216	applicant for truck driver 6/11/41		
SO Birmingham, Ala.	Robert E. Chambliss #2703	9-26-44	abusive language	10/6/44, \$1. and \$26.80 costs, paid
SO Birmingham, Ala.	Robert Edward Chambliss #2703	7-11-49	flogging while masked.	pending.
SO Birmingham Ala.	Robert Edward Chambliss #2703	9-2-49	A&B	pending 9-26-49 disch
SO Birmingham Ala.	Robert Edward Chambliss #29190	4-29-50	material witness	4-30-50 rel

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 12-1-00 BY SP-6 BJA/PM

157-390-24

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT - 7 1963	
FBI - BIRMINGHAM	

b7c

* Represents notations unsupported by fingerprints in FBI files.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-51500-1

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9/1/17
 b7c

Federal Bureau of Investigation

1-5

United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

2

1004302

The following is the record of FBI number

J. E. Hoover
Director.

CONTAINER OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
	* 12703 SC Birmingham, Ala., 1/22/36 desertion-non-support.			

* Represents notations unsupported by fingerprints in FBI files.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-55100-2

NOTICE: THIS RECORD IS FURNISHED FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 9/17/63

ROBERT EDWARD CHAMBLISS was contacted at his residence, 2505 32nd Avenue, North, at which time he was advised of the official identity of interviewing agents. He was further advised that he did not have to make a statement, but that anything he said could be used against him in a court of law. He was further advised of his right to consult an attorney prior to making available any information, and that no threats or promises would be made to him in order to induce him to make available any information.

CHAMBLISS stated at the outset of the interview that before he made available any information, he wished to make the following statement. He related that 78% of the FBI employees are Catholic and owe their allegiance to the Pope, and he had no use for the FBI.

CHAMBLISS was asked as to his whereabouts on September 15, 1963. He stated at this time that he was at a meeting in Midfield. He then immediately concluded the interview by stating that he had nothing further to state to the FBI and unless the interviewing Agents had a warrant he would no longer speak to them. He then indicated that the interviewing agents leave his residence and stated that he was not going to be pushed around by the KENNEDY brothers. He refused to discuss anything further with the Agents.

21610
FBI
FILE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-1-99 BY SP4 bja/mn

157-390-34

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT - 8 1963	
FBI - BIRMINGHAM	

b7C

On 9/15/63 at Birmingham, Alabama File # BH 157-352
by SA [redacted] and SA [redacted] Date dictated 9/16/63
b7C

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
(FBI)**

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS
RELEASE**

SUBJECT: Robert Edward Chambliss

FOIPA NUMBER: 443,713

FILE NUMBER: 157-BH-390, Section 2

1400 - 2121 Building
Birmingham, Alabama 35203
April 2, 1964

Mr. Adolph M. Downing
Special Agent in Charge
U. S. Secret Service
290 Post Office Building
P. O. Box 693
Birmingham, Alabama

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-8-99 BY SP4 bjp/aw

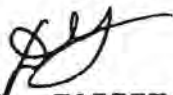
Dear Mr. Downing:

RE: ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS

Attached hereto are two copies of a memorandum concerning the above captioned individual.

It is believed that the captioned individual might be of interest to the Secret Service in the event that the President of the United States should travel to an area where Chambliss is residing in the future.

Very truly yours,


RAY L. FAISST,
Special Agent in Charge

Enclosures 2 (Registered Mail)

2-Addressee (Enc. 2) (RM)

2-Birmingham

(1 - 89-46)

(1 - 157-390)

RJ:ela

(4)

Searched _____
Serialized P
Indexed _____
Filed P

157-390-224

1400 - 2121 Building
Birmingham, Alabama 35203
April 2, 1964

RE: ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS

It is felt that captioned individual might be of interest to the Secret Service in the event the President of the United States travels to any area in which Chambliss is residing for the following reasons:

Robert E. Chambliss has been active in Ku Klux Klan activities since 1924, and was an active member of the organization until 1951, at which time he resigned from Eastview Klavern Number 13. At that time he was Exalted Cyclops of the group. He still attends open meetings. His FBI arrest record reflects five arrests. In 1949 he was charged with flogging while masked. His free use of dynamite in terrorizing tactics has earned for him the nickname of "Dynamite Bob".

Chambliss owns a 1960 Falcon, two door sedan, light over medium blue, bearing 1964 Alabama license 1-63283. He has access to a 1961 Chevrolet one and one-half ton truck, with a green cab and a silver bed. He resides at 2505 32nd Avenue, North, Birmingham, Alabama.

The following is a description of Chambliss:

Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	180 pounds
Build:	Medium
Complexion:	Medium
Hair:	Brown - gray
Eyes:	Blue

2-Addressee (RM)
2-Birmingham
(1 - 89-46)
(1 - 157-390)
RJ:ela
(4)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-8-99 BY SP4 JYK/MS

RE: ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS

Birmingham Police

Department Number: 29190

FBI Number: 1004302

Health: Poor

Wife:

[REDACTED]
2505 32nd Avenue, North,
Birmingham, Alabama

Children:

[REDACTED]
Tampa, Florida,

[REDACTED]
Tampa, Florida

b7C

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

MEMO

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-8-99 BY SP4 bjp/pan

ROBERT EDWARD CHAMBLISS

This white male, age 60, lives at 2505 32nd Avenue, North, which is a little less than average residential neighborhood. He is married, for a second time, to [REDACTED] nee [REDACTED]. He has two sisters, one brother, and two sons by a previous marriage. All of his relatives have been interviewed. Mrs. [REDACTED] has four sisters, and one brother, and her mother is still living. Mrs. [REDACTED] and her brothers and sisters have all been interviewed. b7C

CHAMBLISS has been employed in coal mines, where he became familiar with the use of explosives, and he has worked as laborer and mechanic. He is presently employed at Rebuilt Parts Company, Birmingham, [REDACTED]. In connection with his work, he makes regularly scheduled trips to South Alabama and North Florida, delivering rebuilt auto parts to their various customers, after salesmen have called on them. b7C

CHAMBLISS has long been known as a militant segregationist, and was suspect in bombings in Birmingham since late 1940's, through the 1950's, until the present time. He has held most of the offices in the various Klaverns, and has been one of the most active Klansmen in the Birmingham area. He has been referred to by [REDACTED] as one of his best Klansmen. His nickname is "Dynamite Bob". b7C

Numerous bombings occurred in trying to stop Negro encroachment into white neighborhood, centered around Center Street, 11th Avenue, North, area.

[REDACTED] furnished considerable information relative to CHAMBLISS's activities over the past years, furnishing numerous statements made by him as reasons for her to believe beyond doubt that CHAMBLISS had been the moving force in most, if not all, the bombings in the Birmingham area. As an example, [REDACTED] b7C b7D

RPW:ela

157-390-730

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JAN 10 1960	
FBI - BIRMINGHAM	

b7C [REDACTED]

This informant advised [REDACTED] Detective, Sheriff's Office, Birmingham, on September 14, 1963, that due to the pattern of activities and a strained attitude on the part of CHAMBLISS and others he had contacted, similar to activities engaged in in the past prior to some "action", caused [REDACTED] to believe that something big was about to occur. [REDACTED] and other Sheriff's Office employees endeavored to cover the situation unsuccessfully. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] advised CHAMBLISS would be their choice as the individual responsible for the bombing. b2 b7C b7D

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER, 1963:

CHAMBLISS has been interviewed on several occasions by Agents prior to 1963, but furnished no information of particular value. He appeared at the Birmingham Office on January 27, 1961, and furnished a lengthy list of individuals that he considered to be Communists. He was interviewed on June 10, 1963, concerning the [REDACTED] and Gaston Motel bombings. He was hostile and would furnish no information. Neighborhood sources established to determine whereabouts of CHAMBLISS in the event of bombing were not able to furnish information that would indicate CHAMBLISS involved in any of the bombings that occurred. It is noted that he had been carried as a bombing suspect over a period of several years. b7C

Numerous informants furnished information as to his intense interest in Klan activities, and in his desire to take some action to fight integration.

SEPTEMBER, 1963:

CHAMBLISS was interviewed on two occasions and was hostile and would furnish no information. There were numerous interviews conducted during September of Klansmen and former associates of CHAMBLISS; however, the interviews concerning his whereabouts during Bapbomb were restricted inasmuch as his whereabouts during the morning of Bapbomb was established by the informant [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] a neighbor who was interviewed. It is noted the informant advised that [REDACTED] b7C b7D

It is noted on September 30, 1963, CHAMBLISS, along with [redacted] and [redacted] was arrested by state authorities, after considerable publicity had been given by Governor GEORGE WALLACE that arrests were to be made in the bombing case, and were finally charged with illegal possession of dynamite in the city limits of Birmingham. They were tried on October 9, 1963, and found guilty, and fined \$100 plus costs and sentenced to 180 days in jail. This conviction has been appealed by these defendants to Circuit Court, and has been passed on two occasions, at the request of state officials. The information on which these charges were filed was available prior to the arrest of these individuals. ✓ b7C

CHAMBLISS was interviewed by state officials on September 29, 1963, and executed a signed statement, a copy of which was made available to this office.

OCTOBER, 1963:

Numerous interviews were conducted relative to CHAMBLISS in October; all of his relatives were interviewed, as well as many Klansmen and associates. Inasmuch as he did not furnish any specific alibi as to where he was on the various occasions, other than to say he was at home, the persons interviewed could not be properly classified as alibi witnesses. Most of the Klansmen interviewed were acquainted with CHAMBLISS in varying degrees.

A tesure was installed at the residence of CHAMBLISS on October 22, 1963, and was removed on November 25, 1963. This source of information has been reported under [redacted] (RAC). b2

Surveillances were conducted on CHAMBLISS on a trip he made to Atlanta, Georgia, and on a trip he made to South Alabama - North Florida, in connection with his official business. Additionally, numerous spot checks were conducted on his residence, and he was surveilled on a spot-type operation for only short periods of time for the purpose of keeping him aware of Bureau investigation.

NOVEMBER, 1963:

Concentrated investigative activity was conducted through November by special squad conducting numerous interviews and re-interviews with relatives and associates, and attempts

to interview CHAMBLISS himself. Spot checks again were conducted. A total of 30 interviews with associates were noted, and five with relatives were made in the month of November.

DECEMBER, 1963:

Eleven interviews concerning CHAMBLISS were reflected in file review, during December, in addition to spot checks of residence.

During January, February, and March, 1964, activities of CHAMBLISS have been followed through informants. His employer has been contacted on three occasions during this period, and comments were made to him concerning the interest of this office in a Hudson Clutch Plate, a part of which was used in making a shrapnel bomb that was exploded on September 25, 1963. Spot checks have been made and in a manner obvious to CHAMBLISS, showing a continuing interest of the Agents in his activities. Most of his relatives and the relatives of Mrs. [REDACTED] have been recontacted during this period. b7C

CHAMBLISS would not submit to a polygraph interview. He was interviewed with the aid of the polygraph by Captain [REDACTED] Birmingham Police Department, at the time of his arrest by state officials, but according to [REDACTED] this interview was inconclusive, inasmuch as CHAMBLISS was fatigued and went to sleep during the interview. b7C

INFORMANTS:

As indicated [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] has been furnishing information on a regular basis relative to CHAMBLISS and his activities. [REDACTED] reports those things that concern him, and in this manner, the direction of the investigation has been determined. Persons interviewed have been fed information which would reflect interest in the things that seemed to have concerned him, such as the state passing his trial, the fact his attorney indicated he was not particularly interested in defending him, and information relative to various Klansmen that he was particularly provoked with at the time. [REDACTED] b2 b7C b7D

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] have been furnishing current information on CHAMBLISS. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] or opinion Eastview Klavern on verge of being broken up by dissension caused primarily by CHAMBLISS.

Continued investigation being concentrated in the direction indicated by information obtained from informants to cause more suspicion among members of Eastview Klavern, and possibility of someone talking appears to be logical.

The following is a record of Agent contacts regarding investigation of suspect ROBERT EDWARD CHAMBLISS:

SEPTEMBER - 1963

Personal Interview - 1 3

Associates, neighbors, and business associates - 1

OCTOBER - 1963

Personal Interviews - 3

Associates, neighbors, and business associates - 48

Relatives - 11

Employment - 9

Spot Checks - 2

NOVEMBER - 1963

Associates, neighbors, and business associates - 24

Relatives - 1

DECEMBER - 1963

Associates, neighbors, and business associates - 6

JANUARY - 1964

Associates, neighbors, and business associates - 11

Employment - 1

FEBRUARY - 1964

Associates, neighbors, and business associates - 3

MARCH - 1964

Associates, neighbors, and business associates - 1

APRIL - 1964

Associates, neighbors, and business associates - 1

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Possession of dynamite charges dropped; co-defendant trial is set for today

Charges against a Gardendale man, accused of possession of dynamite were dismissed in Circuit Court here late Tuesday, and the trial of a co-defendant was set for today.

Charles A. Cagle, 23, was released on his appeal from Birmingham Recorder's Court where he was fined \$100 and sentenced to six months in jail.

Cagle, Robert E. Chambliss, 2505 Second Ave., North, and John W. Hall of Gardendale were arrested last September by State Troopers during investigation of Birmingham bombings.

Chambliss and Hall were scheduled to be tried today before Judge E. C. Watson. However, the process of selecting a jury was delayed because there was not a sufficient number of jurors available. The court was awaiting release of jurors from trials in other courtrooms.

Judge Watson dismissed the charge of possession of dynamite against Cagle at the

conclusion of the city's case. He told members of the jury that it had not been proved that Cagle had dynamite in his possession in Birmingham.

The judge's decision was in answer to a motion by Defense Atty. Matt Murphy for a dismissal on grounds the corpus delicti (body of the crime) had not been proved.

Judge Watson said it was rare that a case was taken away from a jury. He said, however, it was his first job to determine whether the facts were

sufficient to substantiate the charges.

No testimony was presented by the state to show whether Cagle ever touched the dynamite or had it in his possession.

Cagle, Hall and Chambliss were arrested last September after a dramatic announcement by Gov. George Wallace's office that the Birmingham bombings were about to be solved.

AFTER BEING held in jail three days the three men were charged with the misdemeanor of possessing dynamite.

State Investigator Capt. R. N. Godwin read a statement to the jury Tuesday in which Cagle told of a case of dynamite being taken from Chambliss' car and put into a vehicle driven by Hall. In the statement, Cagle said Hall asked him to follow his car after a Ku Klux Klan meeting to pick up something Chambliss wanted him to get rid of. He said after Hall took a box from Chambliss, they went to a spot near Gardendale and hid

a case of dynamite in some kudzu vines.

Capt. Godwin quoted Cagle as saying he got worried about the location of the dynamite and it was moved several times.

Cagle led officers to the dynamite in early October and it was at the spot where the defendant said it was taken originally.

Cagle said the dynamite was transferred from Birmingham to near Gardendale the night the home of Negro Atty. Arthur

Shores' home was bombed, according to Capt. Godwin.

COL. AL LINGO, state public safety director, testified that Cagle made a statement to him in which he admitted to moving the dynamite.

City Fire Marshal A. Rosenfeld was put on the stand by the state to testify that none of the three men had a permit to handle dynamite.

A story in The News Tuesday erroneously identified Circuit Judge Lewis Bailes as being the judge in the Cagle case.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

2 THE BIRMINGHAM NEWS
THE BIRMINGHAM POST-HERALD

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-8-99 BY SP4/jc/PAM

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

Date: 6-17-64
Edition: Red Star Final

Author: John W. Blosner b7C

Editor: [REDACTED] b7C

Title: Robert E. Chambliss; [REDACTED] b7A

Character: [REDACTED] b7A
or RE

Classification: BIRMINGHAM
Submitting Office:

☐ Being Investigated

157-390-111

SEARCHED <i>RM</i>	INDEXED <i>RM</i>
SERIALIZED <i>RM</i>	FILED <i>RM</i>
JUN 19 1964	
FBI - BIRMINGHAM	

2 copies to [REDACTED]

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Chambliss Not Guilty

Acquitted On Dynamite Charge

BY BILL MORLEY

A jury deliberated about 30 minutes yesterday before finding Robert E. Chambliss not guilty on his appeal from Recorder's Court on charges of illegal possession of dynamite.

Chambliss, 59, of 2505 32nd-av, n, and two co-defendants, Charles Cagle, 23, 1305 Vanderbilt-rd; and John Wesley Hall, Gardendale; were arrested by State Troopers during an investigation last Fall.

They were fined \$100 and costs and sentenced to 180 days in jail in Birmingham Recorder's Court.

Cagle was acquitted of the same charge Tuesday by Judge Elias C. Watson in Circuit Court before the case got to the jury.

Three Are Arrested

All three men were arrested after they admitted to Public Safety Director Al Lingo and his investigators that they had disposed of a case of dynamite on the night of Sept. 4, it was testified.

No evidence, except the confessions, ever was presented in either trial, and more actual testimony against Chambliss was given in the Cagle trial than Chambliss' trial.

Lingo testified that Chambliss told him and other investigators that on the morning of Sept 4, 1963, he bought a case of dynamite from Negrin General Merchandise Store, Daisy City. He said the storekeeper had three extra sticks that he gave him.

Watched Hall

According to Cagle's signed statement, he watched Hall take the box from Chambliss' car and put it into the Hall car, and then they hid it beyond Gardendale.

During the intensive investigation that followed a series of bombings in Birmingham, the three men were arrested by Highway Patrolmen. Gov. George Wallace announced several hours before that arrests were imminent.

After Hall and Cagle told about moving the dynamite, which they showed to State Troopers, Chambliss said he had bought it to blow up stumps on land for a new home for the Ku Klux Klan.

Birmingham Fire Marshal A. Rosenfeld said neither of the three men had a permit to move, store or handle explosive in the city, but no evidence except the defendants' statements ever were introduced to show that the dynamite ever existed.

The defendants were represented by Attys. Matt Murphy and Hollis Parrish, and Assistant City Atty. William C. Walker was prosecutor for the city. The charges are misdemeanors and Judge Watson instructed the jury that in case of a conviction the fine could be set from one cent to \$100.

Hall's case has been set for Monday.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

1 BIRMINGHAM POST-
HERALD, BIRMINGHAM
ALABAMA

Date: 6-19-64
Edition: Final
Author: Bill Mobley
Editor: James E. Mills
Title: Robert E.
Chambliss.

Character:  b7C
or  b7A
Classification:
Submitting Office: BIRMINGHAM
☐ Being Investigated

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-8-99 BY SP16ja/Pan

157-390-271

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SERIALIZED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FILED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
JUN 19 1964	
FBI - BIRMINGHAM	

2 copies to Bureau

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Chambliss Case Goes On

Cagle Appears As 'Hostile Witness'

BY BILL MOBLEY

The case of Robert E. Chambliss, 59, of 2505 32nd-av, n, accused of illegally possessing dynamite continues in circuit court today.

Charles Cagle, whose case was dismissed Tuesday before reaching the jury, was called as a "hostile witness" by Asst. City Atty. William Walker. He took the fifth amendment on several questions. He was directed to answer some of the questions pertaining to the same case of dynamite involved in his trial.

State Criminal Investigator W. R. Posey said he was accompanied to Chambliss' home on the night of Sept. 29 by Don Luna. He said he asked Chambliss to accompany him to the State Trooper's office to talk to Col. Al Lingo.

Luna identified himself as an investigator for the Ku Klux Klan during the trials of the three defendants in Recorder's Court.

Denied Knowledge

Col. Lingo said Chambliss at first denied knowing anything about any dynamite but later admitted it after Cagle and a third man, John Hall had made their statements and the dynamite had been found.

In the Cagle trial, in a statement purported to be a signed confession by him concerning the case of dynamite, Cagle said he saw Hall take a box from Chambliss' car and put it into Hall's car.

Judge Elias C. Watson sustained an objection by Defense Atty. Murphy to the question by Atty. Walker as to what Cagle observed at the Chambliss home. Walker told Judge Watson unless he can solicit more evidence from Cagle that the city will close its case.

Judge Watson said he will study laws pertaining to the situation and make his ruling when court reconvenes at 9 a.m. today.

Admitted Purchase

Chambliss admitted after his arrest that he had bought a case of dynamite on the morning of Sept. 4, 1963, Public Safety Director Al Lingo and Major Bill Jones testified yesterday in the appeal to Circuit Court by Chambliss.

Chambliss made the statement on Oct. 1 after denying it on a couple of other occasions, high ranking state officials told the jury in Judge Watson's court.

Major Jones said Chambliss told state investigators that on the morning of Sept. 4, he bought the case of dynamite from Negron Hardware Co., in Pratt City.

During cross examination by Defense Counsel Matt Murphy,

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(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

1 THE BIRMINGHAM NEW

THE BIRMINGHAM
POST-HERALD

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

Date: 6-18-64
Edition: Red star Final
Author: Bill Mobley
Editor: John W. Bloorer
Title: Robert E. Chambliss

88. [REDACTED]

Character: RM b7C

or

Classification: BIRMINGHAM
Submitting Office:

☐ Being Investigated

157-330-272

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SERIALIZED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FILED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
JUN 19 1964	
FBI - BIRMINGHAM	

2 copies to [unclear]

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
(FBI)**

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS
RELEASE**

SUBJECT: Robert Edward Chambliss

FOIPA NUMBER: 443,713

FILE NUMBER: 157-BH-390, Section 3

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, Birmingham (157-390)

DATE: 1/18/65

FROM : SA [REDACTED] b7C

SUBJECT: ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS
RM

Re Memo of SA [REDACTED] b7C, 1/13/65, captioned
"Klan Organizations; Bombing Suspects, Etc."

ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS was interviewed on 1/13/65 and 1/17/65. He still resides at 2505 - 32nd Avenue, North, is employed at Rebuilt Auto Parts, 1508 - 4th Avenue, South, and drives a 1960 Falcon, blue, 1965 Alabama license 1-78698.

① 157-390
1- 105-553
1- 105-555
MLA:hss
(3)
SLoc

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157-390-358

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JAN 19 1965	

[REDACTED]

b7C

11/10/65

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-26-99 BY SP4 bja/PAW

TO: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (174-6)
FROM: SAC, MOBILE (174-3)(P)
RE: GREENBOMBS

Re Birmingham airtel to Mobile, 11/3/65.

On the dates indicated, the following investigation was conducted by SA [REDACTED] at Montgomery, Ala.:

On 11/9/65, Officer [REDACTED] Montgomery, Ala., PD, Criminal Identification Bureau, advised that his files were negative concerning ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS, mentioned in reairtel.

Mr. [REDACTED] advised that in addition to the fact that there was no arrest record on file at the Montgomery PD concerning this individual, likewise there was no "incident report" concerning CHAMBLISS' alleged involvement in the beating of Negroes who were riding public buses in Montgomery, Ala., in December, 1956.

In addition, [REDACTED] and Lt. [REDACTED] all Montgomery PD, advised on 11/9/65, that ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS was not known to them by name and none of them personally recalled any alleged incident involving CHAMBLISS in Montgomery, Ala., in December, 1956.

② - Birmingham 1-157-390
2 - Mobile
SJF/gre
(4)

174-6-3933

157-390-400

MO 174-3

On the same date, Officer [REDACTED] Montgomery County SO, Identification Division, Montgomery, Ala., advised that his files were negative regarding ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS. b7C

On the same date, Mr. [REDACTED] (NA), Identification Division, Alabama Department of Public Safety, advised that his files contained an FBI Identification Record for one ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS, white male, born 1/14/04, under FBI No. 1004302, however, the last record noted on the FBI Identification Record which is in possession of the Alabama Department of Public Safety at Montgomery is an arrest on 9/2/49 by the SO, Birmingham, Ala., on a charge of assault and battery. Files of the Alabama Department of Public Safety at Montgomery, Ala., reflect no information concerning ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS subsequent to 9/2/49. b7C

Mobile indices contain several references to a ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS described as a Klansman from the Birmingham, Ala., area and Mobile files presently being reviewed in an effort to develop any information concerning ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS having been in the Montgomery, Ala., area in December, 1956, allegedly to participate in the beating of Negroes who were riding public buses. Any information tending to corroborate that allegation will be immediately furnished Birmingham Division. As noted above, however, there is no record with the appropriate law enforcement agencies in Montgomery, Ala., verifying any such arrest

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

TO: SAC, MOBILE (174-3)
FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (174-6)(P)
SUBJECT: GREENBOMBS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-20-99 BY SP4 bja/pal

Review of Birmingham files reflects that ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS allegedly was arrested at Montgomery, Alabama, in December, 1956, after traveling to that city to participate in a Klan mission involving the beating of Negroes who were riding public buses.

Review of Birmingham indices failed to reflect that this incident has been verified. CHAMBLISS, as Mobile is aware, is considered a prime suspect in a number of bombings in the Birmingham Division.

It is requested that the files of the Montgomery PD be reviewed for arrest data concerning CHAMBLISS, as well as any reports available reflecting the circumstances of this alleged arrest.

2 - Mobile
2 - Birmingham
JLM:hss

(4)

JLM

Searched _____
Serialized _____
Indexed _____
Filed _____

157-390-451

~~174-6-3882~~

7 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

Section 552a

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| <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(1) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(A) | <input type="checkbox"/> (d)(5) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(2) | <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(B) | <input type="checkbox"/> (j)(2) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(3) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(C) | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(1) |
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| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(F) | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(4) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(4) | <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(8) | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(5) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(5) | <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(9) | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(6) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(6) | | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(7) |

- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to the subject of your request or the subject of your request is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

_____ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

Page(s) withheld inasmuch as a final release determination has not been made. You will be advised as to the disposition at a later date.

Pages were not considered for release as they are duplicative of _____

Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s): _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

157-BH-390, Serials 452-457

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X Deleted Page(s) X
X No Duplication Fee X
X for this page X
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FBI/DOJ

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office BIRMINGHAM	Office of Origin BIRMINGHAM	Date 12/16/65	Investigative Period 8/21/65 - 12/14/65
Title of Case ROBERT EDWARD CHAMBLISS, aka Bob Chambliss, "Dynamite" Chambliss		Report made by SA [REDACTED] b7C	Typed By: hss
		Character of Case RM (KLAN)	


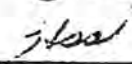
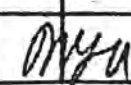
NON-PROSECUTIVE SUMMARY REPORT

REFERENCE: Summary Report of SA [REDACTED] dated b7C
12/14/63 at Birmingham.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

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DATE 12-20-99 BY SP4BJA/PAM

It is noted an active individual file concerning this subject has been maintained in the Birmingham Office since 9/16/63, following the bombing of the [REDACTED] Birmingham, on [REDACTED]. As the Bureau is aware, since that date concentrated investigative attention has been given to subject's activities directed at solution of the [REDACTED] case. Consequently, detailed information concerning CHAMBLISS, his associates, and connection with the Birmingham bombings, has been fully reported under the [REDACTED] caption. Detailed information indicating his involvement in the [REDACTED] not included herein as deemed [REDACTED] b7A

Approved 	Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below		
Copies made: 7 - Bureau (157-1259) RM 2 - INTC, Birmingham (RM) 1 - ONI, Birmingham (RM) 1 - OSI, Birmingham (RM) 1 - Secret Service, Birmingham (RM) ② - Birmingham (157-390) 		157	930	469
		Searched _____ Serialized <u>11/17</u> Indexed _____ Filed _____ <div style="background-color: black; width: 150px; height: 30px; margin-top: 5px;"></div>		
Notations:		 b7C		

inappropriate for non-prosecutive summary report of this nature. Additionally, the majority of the vital information connecting CHAMBLISS with the [REDACTED] was received and is continuing to be furnished from a highly sensitive source. Again, this specialized information in detail not deemed appropriate for inclusion in instant report. The day by day activities of CHAMBLISS are followed on a regular basis and pertinent information will continue to be furnished the Bureau under the [REDACTED] caption. b7A

It is further noted that CHAMBLISS is completely inactive insofar as the Klan is concerned and has been completely inactive for almost two years. In that respect, it would not appear this subject falls within the criteria set out in Section 122A, Manual of Instructions, regarding the submission of reports concerning officials and active Klan leaders. However, instant report is being submitted considering this subject's past history and previous propensity for violence.

b2 Careful consideration has been given to the use of [REDACTED] symbols in this report and such symbols utilized only in those instances deemed necessary.

X This case is being placed in a pending inactive status for reporting purposes. Following six months from date of report, this matter will be made active to determine whether subject has reestablished any Klan connections, at which time the Bureau will be advised.

BH 157-390

INFORMANTS

Identity of Source

File Where Located

██████████ is former ██████████ b2/b7D

██████████ b2/b7D
65-398-1110, 1347, 1098

██████████ is ██████████ b2/b7D

157-352-1656

██████████ is ██████████ b2/b7D

65-398-1926

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105-446

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██████████ b2/b7D

██████████ is ██████████ (Requested) b2/b7D 65-398-1715

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 2 - INTC, Birmingham (RM)
1 - ONI, Birmingham (RM)
1 - OSI, Birmingham (RM)
1 - Secret Service, Birmingham (RM)

Report of: SA [REDACTED] b7C
Date: December 16, 1963

Office: BIRMINGHAM

Field Office File #: BH 157-390

Bureau File #: 157-1259

Title: ROBERT EDWARD CHAMBLISS

Character: RACIAL MATTERS (KLAN)

Synopsis: ROBERT EDWARD CHAMBLISS, white male, American, sixty-one years of age, native and resident of Birmingham, Alabama, reportedly active in various and numerous klaverns of different Klan organizations from the 1920's to 1964. Arrest Record indicates arrests for "flogging while masked" and illegal possession of dynamite; however, no convictions obtained. His reported disposition toward violence, together with summary of extensive Klan background, set out. Subject interviewed on eight occasions since September, 1963; admitted some Klan connections but denied participating in any violence.

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BH 157-390

DETAILS:

I. BACKGROUND

A. Birth Date

January 14, 1904, at Pratt City (now part of Birmingham), Alabama - Jefferson County.

B. Citizenship

United States - Native-born.

C. Education

Claims 8th grade, local public schools.

D. Marital Status

Married; wife - [REDACTED]

nee [REDACTED]

Former wife - [REDACTED] divorced in 1936.

b7C

E. Military Service

None

F. Credit and Arrest Record

On October 29, 1963, Mrs. [REDACTED] Merchants Credit Association, Birmingham, Alabama, advised SA [REDACTED] that her files reflect ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS bought a 1960 Ford on February 16, 1960, from Edwards Motor Company, Birmingham, and at that time there was \$2,350.40 due. She further advised that the file also mentioned the Whittle Furniture Company, Birmingham, repossessed some furniture from CHAMBLISS as he refused to pay the debt after he and his wife were separated. Mrs. [REDACTED] further mentioned that

b7C

BH 157-390

her files contain numerous newspaper clippings concerning CHAMBLISS, and noted there was no evidence in the file of any oil company credit cards and no loan companies or banks were mentioned.

Subsequent inquiry at Merchants Credit Association disclosed no further pertinent information.

The following is the FBI Identification Record for ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS, FBI Number 1 004 302:

<u>Contr. of Fingerprints</u>	<u>Name & Number</u>	<u>Arr. or Received</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
PD Birmingham, Ala.	ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS #29190	10/31/35	vio. Liq. Law-hold for Govt.	Del. to Govt. Agent, Birmingham, Ala. ATU
USM Birmingham, Ala.	R. E. CHAMBLISS #1825	10/31/35	not given	
SO Birmingham, Ala.	ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS #2703	11/1/35	vio. IRL	Government
SO Birmingham, Ala.	ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS #CSB 216	applicant for truck driver 6/11/41		
SO, Birmingham, Ala.	ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS #2703	9/26/44	abusive language	10/6/44, \$1. & \$26.80 costs paid
SO, Birmingham, Ala.	ROBERT EDWARD CHAMBLISS #2703	7/11/49	flogging while masked.	Pending
SO, Birmingham, Ala.	ROBERT EDWARD CHAMBLISS #2703	9/2/49	A&B	pending 9/26/49 disch.
PD, Birmingham, Ala.	ROBERT EDWARD CHAMBLISS #29190	4/29/50	material witness	4/30/50 rel.

It is noted that news reports indicated CHAMBLISS was indicted by the Jefferson County Grand Jury on July 9, 1949, for "flogging while masked"; however, he was acquitted at the subsequent trial.

On December 10, 1963, [REDACTED] Identification Officer, Birmingham Police Department, advised that CHAMBLISS was arrested September 30, 1963, at Birmingham, Alabama, on a charge of illegal possession of explosives and in City Court on October 9, 1963, was found guilty and fined \$100.00 plus costs and sentenced to 180 days. This case was appealed and tried de novo in Circuit Court on June 18, 1964, at which time subject was found not guilty. b7C

G. Employment

Warehouseman; pickup and delivery driver and salesman, REBUILT AUTO PARTS, 1508 - 4th Avenue, South, Birmingham, Alabama, since 1958.

Formerly employed by HILL GROCERY COMPANY, Birmingham; LONE STAR CEMENT COMPANY as laborer, and Street and Sanitation Department, City of Birmingham, 1946-1951.

H. Residence

2505 - 32nd Avenue, North, Birmingham, Alabama.
Residence telephone: [REDACTED] b7C

I. Physical Description

Name:	ROBERT EDWARD CHAMBLISS, aka Bob Chambliss, "Dynamite" Chambliss
Age:	61
Date of Birth:	January 14, 1904
Place of Birth:	Birmingham, Alabama
Height:	5'10"
Weight:	180 lbs.
Build:	Medium; muscular
Eyes:	Blue
Hair:	Reddish brown; thinning; graying; straight.

Scars and Marks:	Large scar on abdomen; small scar right cheek
Peculiarities:	Pug nose
Complexion:	Ruddy; reddish; some freckles.
FBI Number:	1004302
Social Security No.	418-03-2679
Relatives:	Wife - [REDACTED]
	Former wife - [REDACTED]
	Sons - [REDACTED]
	and [REDACTED]
	both of Tampa, Florida. b7C
	Sister - Mrs. [REDACTED]
	Crestview, Florida;
	Sister - Mrs. [REDACTED]
	Rt. [REDACTED] Birmingham, Ala
	Brother - [REDACTED]
	Dothan, Alabama.

J. AUTOMOBILE

1960 Ford Falcon, two-door, blue; 1966 Alabama license 1-51125 (personally owned).

K. Photograph

Up-to-date photograph, depicting current likeness, maintained in Birmingham file.

L. Special Abilities of Subject, Including Knowledge of Weapons and Explosives

For many years, CHAMBLISS has had the local reputation of being knowledgeable as to the various techniques of charging explosives, primarily dynamite, and preparing both electric and safety fuses.

Birmingham Confidential Informant [REDACTED] has advised that CHAMBLISS is a lay expert in the use of dynamite and has often boasted of his proficiency. b2 b7D

CHAMBLISS reportedly owns a .38 caliber pistol.

BH 157-390

M. Associates (Current)

b7C [REDACTED] -- [REDACTED] Alabama
-- Birmingham, Alabama
-- " "
-- " "
-- " "
-- Mt. Olive, Alabama
-- Birmingham, Alabama
-- " "
-- Mt. Olive, Alabama
-- Birmingham, Alabama

Associates (Former)

b7C [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

All of the above-named individuals reportedly have been active in this area at various times in various Ku Klux Klan and segregationist organizations.

II. CONNECTIONS WITH KLAN-TYPE
AND HATE-TYPE ORGANIZATIONS

During an interview with ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS at Birmingham, Alabama, on September 28, 1963, CHAMBLISS stated he had joined the Ku Klux Klan (KKK) in 1924 and was an active member of the organization until 1951, at which time he resigned from Eastview Klavern #13, KKK, and, in fact, at the time of his resignation was Exalted Cyclops of this group. CHAMBLISS stated he dropped his affiliation with the Klan at this time due to the unfavorable publicity which he had been afforded personally and unfairly because of his alleged acts of violence against Negroes in the Birmingham area, particularly one incident for which he got an unusual amount of publicity involving the forcing of a Negro couple to move from a formerly all-white neighborhood.

CHAMBLISS, on numerous interviews subsequent to the above, has admitted to some extent his past Klan activities but has denied any current association with any type Klan group. These interviews have taken place on the following dates:

September 15, 25 and 28, 1963;

October 29, 1963;

October 19, 1964;

January 13 and 16, 1965;

March 21, 1965.

Birmingham Confidential Informant [REDACTED] advised that

[REDACTED]

b2
b7D
b7C

[REDACTED]

b2
b7C
b7D

[REDACTED] Confidential Informant [REDACTED] advised that ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS was active in various Klan groups from 1949 to 1959 [REDACTED]

On October 25, 1963, [REDACTED] Birmingham, Alabama, advised that [REDACTED] he has seen ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS at numerous and varied Klan meetings and believed him most recently to be associated with Eastview Klavern #13 of the Klan organization headed by [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Confidential Informant [REDACTED] advised [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Confidential Informant [REDACTED] advised in December, 1956, that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Confidential Informant [REDACTED] has advised that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Confidential Informant [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED]

This source stated

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Confidential Informant [redacted] advised

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b7D

in 1963 that [redacted] Confidential Informant [redacted] advised [redacted]

According to Confidential Informant

that [REDACTED] Confidential Informant [REDACTED] advised

In June, 1965, [REDACTED] Birmingham, Alabama, admitted extensive Klan association prior to [REDACTED] and stated [REDACTED] at the time he terminated association with the Klan. He stated he had known ROBERT CHAMBLISS for a number of years

b7C

III. STATEMENT BY SUBJECT CONCERNING VIOLENCE
AND ACTIVITY IN RACIAL SITUATION

Subject, on numerous interviews, has denied participating in any violence in connection with the racial situation. CHAMBLISS has consistently denied any connection with the bombings in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1963 or at any other time.

A. Information Indicating
Propensity For Violence

On September 26, 1963, [REDACTED] advised that ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised in October, 1963, that he had known CHAMBLISS [REDACTED] and that CHAMBLISS had the reputation of being a vicious man capable of violence.

According to information received from Confidential Informant [REDACTED]

Detective [REDACTED] Birmingham Police Department, advised on November 25, 1963, that years ago when ROBERT CHAMBLISS was an employee at the City Garage, CHAMBLISS always wanted to go on calls that the police received concerning Negro disturbances and that CHAMBLISS would say, "Let me go with you. You might need me along to kill a nigger," or words to that effect. Detective [REDACTED] was of the opinion that ROBERT CHAMBLISS was extremely vicious and violent in his nature concerning Negroes.

BH 157-390

As previously noted herein, CHAMBLISS was indicted, arrested and tried in 1949 for "flogging while masked." However, he was not convicted.

[REDACTED] Confidential Informant [REDACTED] who was knowledgeable of Klan activities and individuals during [REDACTED] characterized ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS as a "fireball, a worker, and one who would do anything."

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b7D

[REDACTED] Confidential Informant [REDACTED] advised in July, 1964, that [REDACTED]

APPENDIX

UNITED KLANS OF AMERICA, INC.,
KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN

Records of Superior Court of Fulton County, Georgia, reflect that this Klan organization was granted a corporate charter on February 21, 1961, at Atlanta, Georgia, under the name United Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of America, Inc.

A source advised on February 27, 1961, that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] According to the source, [REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED] These are the promotion of Americanism, white supremacy, and segregation of the races.

The first source and a second source advised in July, 1961, that United Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of America, Inc., merged with Alabama Knights, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. The merged organization established headquarters in Suite 401, the Alston Building, Tuscaloosa, Alabama. (The organization is directed by [REDACTED] and is the dominant Klan group in the South, with units in several Southern states.)

b7C

Second source advised that [REDACTED]

b7D

Third source advised on August 4, 1965, that the United Klans of America, Inc., Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, is currently an active organization, with Klaverns in several Southern states. This source said that [REDACTED] of this organization, and was last elected to this position on September 5, 1964, at a National Klonvocation in Birmingham, Alabama. Source said that the activity of the UKA is increasing and that the national office remains in Suite 401, Alston Building, Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

b7C

APPENDIX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-26-99 BY SP4 bja/PAM

Date December 8, 1965

[REDACTED] Alabama, who is [REDACTED] b7C

[REDACTED] furnished the following information to [REDACTED], who identified himself as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

[REDACTED] advised that he has no additional information to furnish, other than what he furnished when he was previously contacted in June, 1965, and sometime about two years ago. He is still a strong segregationist, but would definitely not kill anyone unless, of course, someone was attempting to hurt him. He has no idea who may be responsible for the bombings in the Birmingham area or anywhere else, and he would not resort to bombings himself. b7C

[REDACTED] reiterated that he joined [REDACTED] the Ku Klux Klan [REDACTED] Alabama, but remained in the organization only about [REDACTED] months. He quit the Klan [REDACTED] before ASA CARTER and some other Klansmen were involved in a shooting incident in a theater in the Central Park area of Birmingham, Alabama. He attended some public rallies, parades and cross burnings while a member, but quit because the idea of a group of men gathering together while wearing hoods and robes seemed very foolish to him. He said it was a mistake to join the Klan and he is now sorry that he did join. b7C

He does not recall hatred being preached at any of the meetings he attended and he did not participate in any acts of violence, nor does he know anyone who did. When ASA CARTER, who was from another Klavern, started appearing at some of the rallies and meetings in the Midfield area, the Klan in that area began to fall apart, apparently because CARTER was known as a man who favored violence. At one rally in the Midfield shopping center, CARTER was introduced as "Mr. X".

On 12/2/65 at [REDACTED] Alabama

File #

BH 174-6;

BH 157-390; BH 105-364;

by SA [REDACTED] hss

Date dictated

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

157-390-420

b7C

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
DEC 21 1965
FBI - BIRMINGHAM

[REDACTED] b7C
BH 174-6

[REDACTED] stated that he definitely would not join the Klan again, but if the individual continues to lose his rights as he has been recently, he may join some organization to help stop this trend, possibly the John Birch Society. He believes the white people should go to the polls and elect someone who would fight for individual rights. b7C

He is presently a member of [REDACTED] and plans to run for [REDACTED] so that he can fight integration. At one time he was [REDACTED] and, although it is not presently active in [REDACTED] he still belongs and still pays two or three dollars for dues every two or three months. b7C

[REDACTED] He does not know where the meetings are held but believes same may be held at a hotel in downtown Birmingham.

[REDACTED] advised that, although he has read about ROBERT E. CHAMBLISS and has seen his photograph in the newspaper in the past, he has met CHAMBLISS only one time and that was several years ago when he [REDACTED] was a member of the Klan. On that particular occasion, [REDACTED] b7C b7D

[REDACTED] said that is the only time he ever saw CHAMBLISS. [REDACTED] said he never made the statement that CHAMBLISS bombed some houses in the Fountain Heights section and he does not recall ever mentioning the names of any individuals who may have belonged to the same Klan group to which CHAMBLISS belonged.

[REDACTED] b7C
BH 174-6

[REDACTED] said this information was given to the authorities. He stated [REDACTED] rambles on about a lot of things, and he thinks she is probably not very reliable.

In addition to [REDACTED] advised he also [REDACTED]

He advised [REDACTED] He carries a gun in his car at all times. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] feels confident that he could protect himself if it became necessary. He said he would cooperate with the FBI in every possible way.

[REDACTED] advised that in addition to his family and relatives, whose names he previously furnished, he now has [REDACTED], who is [REDACTED] old. [REDACTED] a white 1964 Cadillac, a white 1960 Chevrolet station wagon, a silver 1957 Chevrolet station wagon, and 5 trucks. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] He added he has never had military service and has never been arrested.

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
(FBI)**

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS
RELEASE**

SUBJECT: Robert Edward Chambliss

FOIPA NUMBER: 443,713

FILE NUMBER: 157-BH-390, Section 4



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

In Reply, Please Refer to

File No. **157-390****March 22, 1968**

Director
United States Secret Service
Department of the Treasury
Washington, D. C. 20220

Re: ROBERT EDWARD CHAMBLISS
RACIAL MATTERS - (KLAN)

Dear Sir:

The information furnished herewith concerns an individual who is believed to be covered by the agreement between the FBI and Secret Service concerning Presidential protection, and to fall within the category or categories checked.

1. ☐ Has attempted or threatened bodily harm to any government official or employee, including foreign government officials residing in or planning an imminent visit to the U. S., because of his official status.
2. ☐ Has attempted or threatened to redress a grievance against any public official by other than legal means.
3. ☐ Because of background is potentially dangerous; or has been identified as member or participant in communist movement; or has been under active investigation as member of other group or organization inimical to U. S.
4. ☐ U. S. citizens or residents who defect from the U. S. to countries in the Soviet or Chinese Communist blocs and return.
5. ☐ Subversives, ultrarightists, racists and fascists who meet one or more of the following criteria:
 - (a) ☐ Evidence of emotional instability (including unstable residence and employment record) or irrational or suicidal behavior;
 - (b) ☐ Expressions of strong or violent anti-U. S. sentiment;
 - (c) ☐ Prior acts (including arrests or convictions) or conduct or statements indicating a propensity for violence and antipathy toward good order and government.
6. ☒ Individuals involved in illegal bombing or illegal bomb-making.

Photograph ☐ has been furnished ☐ enclosed ☐ is not available

☐ may be available through _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-3-00 BY SP4bjp/AM

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

2 - Bureau

1 - Special Agent in Charge (Enclosure(s) (1)

U. S. Secret Service, **Birmingham**

1 - Birmingham (157-390)

NPS:jml (4)

Enclosure(s)

(USE AS YELLOW FILE COPY)

(Upon removal of classified enclosures, if any, this transmittal form
becomes UNCLASSIFIED.)

157-390-516

DIRECTOR, FBI
ATTN: IDENTIFICATION DIVISION
LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION
SAC, BIRMINGHAM (174-28) (P)

8/16/68

POTENTIAL BOMBING SUSPECTS
BOMBING MATTERS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-3-02 BY SP4 bja/PAW

The Single Fingerprint Section is requested to
include each of the following named individuals in the
Single Fingerprint Explosives File.

b7C

[REDACTED] who is described as:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Born	[REDACTED] Ala.
Height	[REDACTED]
Weight	[REDACTED]
Hair	[REDACTED]
Eyes	[REDACTED]
Build	[REDACTED]
Marital Status	[REDACTED]
Residence	[REDACTED]
Occupation	Birmingham, Ala.
	[REDACTED]
	Birmingham, Ala.
Social Security No.	[REDACTED]
FBI No.	[REDACTED]
Selective Service No.	[REDACTED]

b7C

ROBERT EDWARD CHAMBLESS, aka Bob, Dynamite Bob
(Bufile 157-1259), described as:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Born	1/14/04 at Birmingham, Alabama

2 - Bureau
5 - Birmingham
1 - 174-28
1 - [REDACTED]
1 - 157-290 (Robert Edward Chambliss)
1 - [REDACTED]
1 - [REDACTED]

CDG:mas

(7) nia

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Height	5' 10"
Weight	180
Hair	Light brown, graying
Eyes	Blue
Complexion	Medium
Build	Medium
Scars and Marks	Large scar on abdomen and stomach area
Marital Status	Married, wife [REDACTED]
Residence	2505 32nd Avenue North, Birmingham, Ala.
Military Service	None
FBI No.	1004302
Social Security No.	418-03-2679
Employment	Warehouseman and pickup and delivery driver for Rebuilt Auto Parts, 1508 4th Avenue South, Birmingham

b7C

[REDACTED] (Bufile [REDACTED])

Race
Sex
Born
Height
Weight
Eyes
Build
Marital Status
FBI No.
Employment

White
Male

Residence
Parents

Deceased

[REDACTED] (Bufile [REDACTED])

Race
Sex
Born
Height
Weight
Eyes
Hair

White
Male

Ala.